

ABSTRACT

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2 ~~A method is disclosed for reducing a standby period of time for printing, in a case~~
3 where two or more network printers and at least one host computer are connected to a
4 network. The method comprises the following steps. The first step is registering at least
5 one item of network print information in the host computer. The second step is detecting
6 the network printer information registered in the host computer if a command for printing
7 has been selected. The third step is transmitting a command for requesting the network
8 printers to transmit information concerning the amount of standby print operations using
9 detected network printer information. The fourth step is valuating the information
10 concerning the amount of the standby print operations transmitted from the network
11 printers in response to the command for requesting the network printers to transmit
12 information concerning the amount of standby print operations. The fifth step is
13 detecting a network printer having the least amount of standby print operations among
14 network printers having standby print operations. The sixth step is transmitting print data
15 to the detected network printer. A system for carrying out the steps is also disclosed.